

**From:** Piolino, Thierry  
**To:** 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'  
**Date:** 12/14/01 10:10am  
**Subject:** Miscorsoft Settlement

Dear Sirs,

I have been following the proceedings for quite a while and I was struck by the 'penalty'. In simple words DoJ says: "Microsoft, you are a bad boy. Promise that you will not do it again."

Microsoft has been found guilty of its de facto monopoly and with its new operating system Windows XP it is 'cementing' its grip on that monopoly.

Under the guise of "this is what people want" Windows XP locks out standards owned by competitors (Java from Sun Microsystems, QuickTime from Apple, audio and video formats from RealNetwork). This is why I have certain concerns about any effect that the opening of the Windows application program interface might have.

Some people argue, that it is a question of National Interest. Remember the USS Yorktown (CG-48, Ticonderoga-Class AEGIS cruiser, lying dead in the Atlantic water after a complete crash of Windows NT, forcing her to be towed back to Norfolk, VA). Remember all viruses running on Windows, Outlook or Office.

For me 'National Interest' means interest for the Nation, nor for Microsoft ALONE. If MS gets some benefits, that is OK, but if only MS gets benefits and the rest of the world gets harmed, it is not National Interest, but Microsoft interest.

Microsoft should be punished for practicing illegally (and not thanked and encouraged to do so).

Merry Christmas and rule wisely.  
T. Piolino